

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIV, Issue No. 070

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10, 2004

www.saipantribune.com 50¢

I N S I D E

See NORITA on Page 8

See HOUSE on Page 8

Local

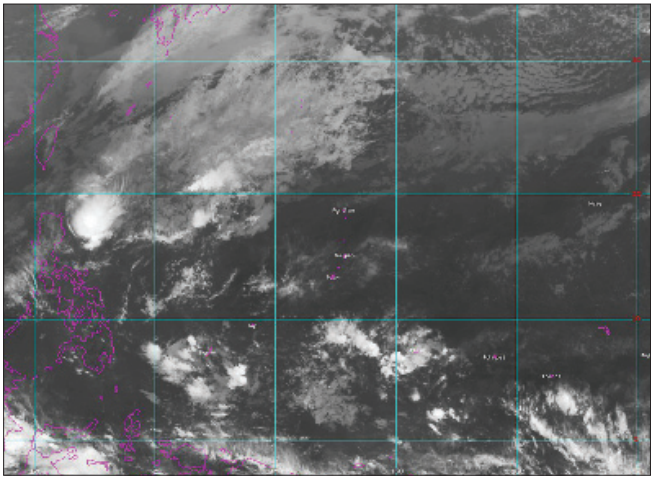


CARS UNLIMITED

CENTURY TRAVEL


COMMUNITY *Briefs*

WEATHER FORECAST




PICTURE TIME: 1:00 AM., MARCH 9, 2004
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


Fresh to strong trade winds across much of Micronesia converging into lighter winds near the Equator are producing scattered showers between the Equator and 8n from 130e to 153 and between the Equator and 6n from 160e to 180. A cold front stretches from 25n161e to 20n146e and continues as a shear line to 19n130e. Low- and mid-level clouds...light rain and showers associated this feature extend up to 200 miles north of the boundary. Trade wind convergence south of the cold front/shear line is producing low clouds and showers between 12n and 18n from 132e to 150e. This area includes the Mariana Islands.




SAIPAN AND TINIAN
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 15-20 mph. Highs near 87. Lows near 76.




GUAM AND ROTA
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 15-20 mph. Highs near 87. Lows near 76.




PALAU
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15 kt.




POHNPEI
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15 kt.




YAP AND ULITHI
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15-20 kt.






















KOSRAE
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10-15 kt.



CHUUK
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15-20 kt.



MAJURO
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.
Winds: East at 15-20 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
 Auckland	Sunny	71F (22C)	60F (16C)
 Beijing	Sunny	65F (18C)	48F (9C)
 Hong Kong	Sunny	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
 Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82F (28C)	68F (20C)
 London, England	Sunny	45F (7C)	30F (-1C)
 Los Angeles	Sunny	79F (26C)	59F (15C)
 Manila	Partly Cloudy	88F (31C)	73F (23C)
 Melbourne	Sunny	75F (24C)	59F (15C)
 Miami	Partly Cloudy	72F (22C)	54F (12C)
 New York City	Cloudy	40F (4C)	34F (1C)
 Osaka	Partly Cloudy	37F (3C)	25F (-4C)
 Paris	Partly Cloudy	38F (3C)	25F (-4C)
 Pusan	Partly Cloudy	53F (12C)	39F (4C)
 Rome	Cloudy	49F (9C)	30F (-1C)
 Salem, Oregon	Partly Cloudy	60F (16C)	40F (4C)
 San Francisco	Sunny	68F (20C)	52F (11C)
 Seoul	Partly Cloudy	47F (8C)	35F (2C)
 Tokyo, Japan	Partly Cloudy	42F (6C)	36F (2C)
 Washington, DC	Cloudy	45F (7C)	34F (1C)



Opinion

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIV, Issue No. 148

Published daily at 2/F Century Insurance Building,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

John Pangelinan PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The schools go flabby

Surely the school accountability movement never meant for this to happen, but here we are: Schools are required by law to raise children's reading and math scores, not their fitness levels. Strapped for cash and instructional time, educators are eliminating gym classes and cutting back on recess.

At the same time, the percentage of children who are obese has tripled over the last two decades, with their healthcare costs rising correspondingly. Children have higher rates of adult-type diabetes and, according to a report this month in the Journal of the American Medical Assn., higher blood pressure as well. Exercise, along with better diet, would help.

Despite recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. surgeon general, fewer than 10 percent of schools provide daily physical education. The CDC reports that one-quarter of children take no gym classes. Georgia eliminated PE requirements four years ago, and Atlanta schools, under pressure to raise academic outcomes, have killed recess and are building schools without playgrounds. Nearly 30 percent of elementary schools nationally have no regularly scheduled recess.

Minnesota has eliminated physical education as a graduation requirement, and Florida allows high schoolers the ultimate contradiction, an online fitness class. Physical education has gone into such a tailspin that Kansas State University shuttered its certification program for gym teachers a few years ago, and the University of Kansas may do the same. College students aren't signing up for what looks like a dead end.

Research shows that physically active kids do better academically and that low-performing students are more likely to be obese. Without exercise at school, children are unlikely to get enough elsewhere. Fewer than one-fourth of school-age children are physically active for 20 minutes daily, even with gym classes—though the CDC recommends at least half an hour each day. Close to a quarter of preteens don't participate in any physical activity outside of school.

Many children can't. Impoverished urban areas offer fewer recreational activities; witness the decision not to open six Los Angeles public swimming pools this summer. Neighborhoods can be too dangerous to play outside. Yet black males already are at higher genetic risk for high blood pressure and diabetes. Latinos and all children in low-income households are more likely to become obese.

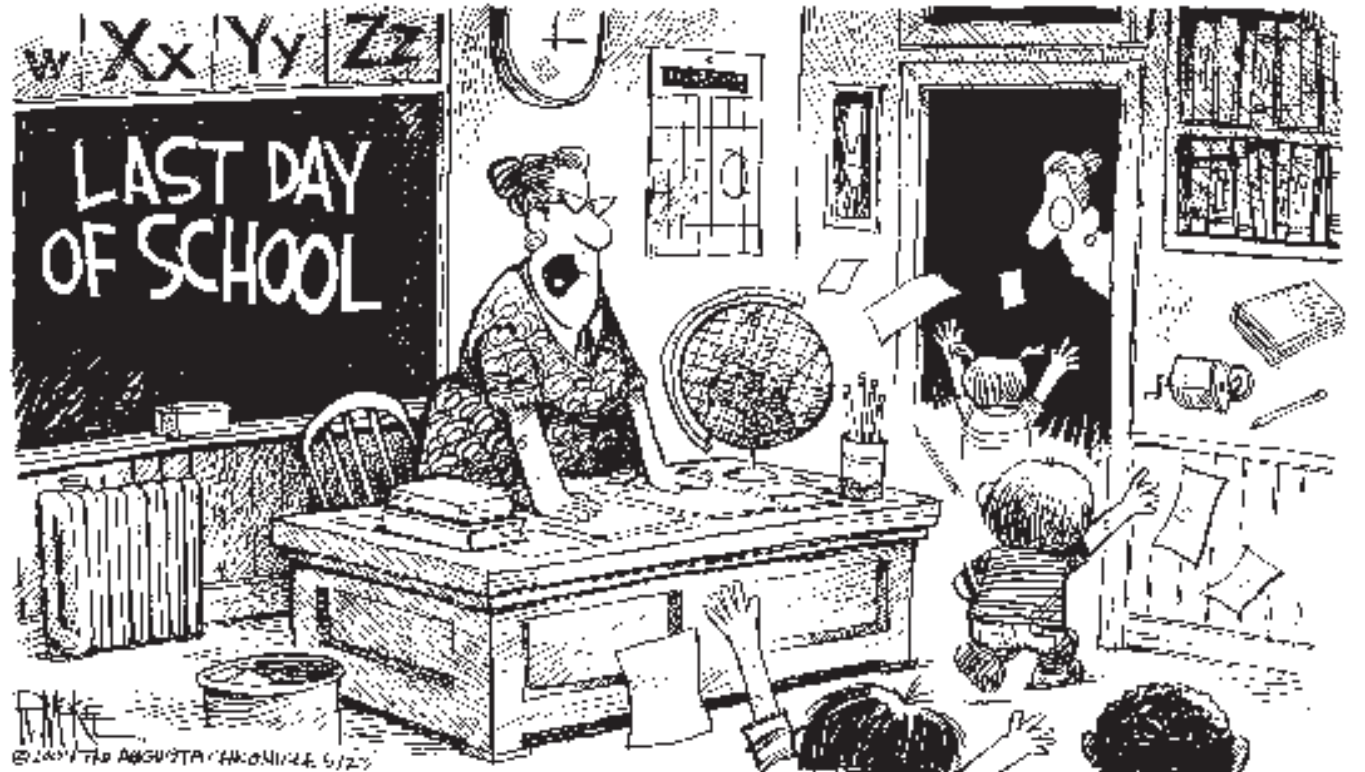
Unlike many states, California requires daily gym classes, though the requirements fall off in high school. But the state doesn't check compliance. A district in the Sacramento area recently cut back PE to save money, and Bakersfield schools are headed the same way.

With portable buildings plopped on blacktop, many California schools have no space for children to run or play ball. Students are relegated to the likes of jumping jacks—no way to turn children on to the joys of exercise. And with up to 75 students crammed into a class, half the kids are hanging out in the back, chatting instead of moving.

The statistics reflect schoolyard reality. Fewer than a quarter of California students meet minimal physical fitness standards, and more than a quarter are overweight, according to results of the California Physical Fitness Test given to fifth-, seventh- and ninth-graders. That is significantly worse than the national average.

President Bush has urged Americans to get more physically active. But as with reading, schools won't give priority to exercise until it is required and they are able to fund it. It's a shallow victory when children can pass algebra but can't walk a mile to school.

Los Angeles Times



"WITH KIDS THESE DAYS, IT FEELS LESS LIKE LETTING THEM OUT FOR SUMMER and MORE LIKE RELEASING THEM ON THEIR OWN RECOGNIZANCE..."

Getting the car out of the ditch

Driving up the winding road toward Capitol Hill one can enjoy a beautiful view of Managaha and the ocean. At one corner there appears to be a grassy space where tourists can turn off the road and park so they can take some pictures, capturing their wonderful visit to the Islands.

Unfortunately, the area also has a big ditch that is easily visible when the grass is cut, but it can not be seen when the grass grows longer. Every few months, we would drive down the road and discover another rental car caught in the ditch like an insect in a Venus's-fly-trap plant. Unable to escape, the cars were usually abandoned until a tow truck was brought to pull it out.

There are a lot of "cars" stuck in the ditch right now, except they are called businesses, public schools, government agencies, or the CNMI as a whole. Many have placed warning signs along the road to alert the "cars" about the big hole ahead. Some "cars" have heeded the warnings to avoid falling into the trap, but others, like lemmings mesmerized by the hope of better times ahead, continue to march toward the grassy side of the road because they don't believe what they've heard.

Sometimes the warning signs have been so numerous and obvious that people have become comfortably numbed to the reality of the situation. One can rationalize: "The ground hasn't dropped out from beneath us yet, so everything must be okay, right?"

Those who have great confidence in the government surmise: "Our leaders are not worried, so why should I be. Besides, if we get stuck, Uncle Sam's tow truck will come to bail us out of the hole like they've always done before."

Instead of doing what would seem like the obvious solution to the problem—fill the hole—the grass keeps getting mowed, just to grow back again. Besides, getting people out of the hole mess makes heroes out of the rescuers—and that makes people feel real good and provides job security.

Unfortunately, too many "cars" have been abandoned when they got stuck in the hole. Businesses have failed, and organizations have shut their doors. Investors seeing what is happening tend to be very cautious about the situation and just keep driving by to check other places without so many pitfalls.

If you find that your "car" is stuck in the ditch, here are three things you should do: First, discover how you got into the ditch (crisis). You should look before you leap into anything that may get you stuck even deeper. There is a tendency that some drivers

By RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS

Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is the owner of Positively Outrageous Results. They have consulted with over 400 businesses in 40 different industries. For better business results go to BizResults.biz to read previous articles.



(manager/directors) know all the answers. Make sure you know the problem before you spend too much time trying to get out. If you don't, you may find that you've pulled yourself into a deeper ditch.

Second, once you understand your situation and how you got there, get out of the ditch as quickly as possible. Gather ideas from everyone in the organization. It amazes us how blind those at the top of an organization can be to simple solutions that are obvious to the frontline people. Communication is essential to gather ideas and let people know what is happening and how the company will succeed.

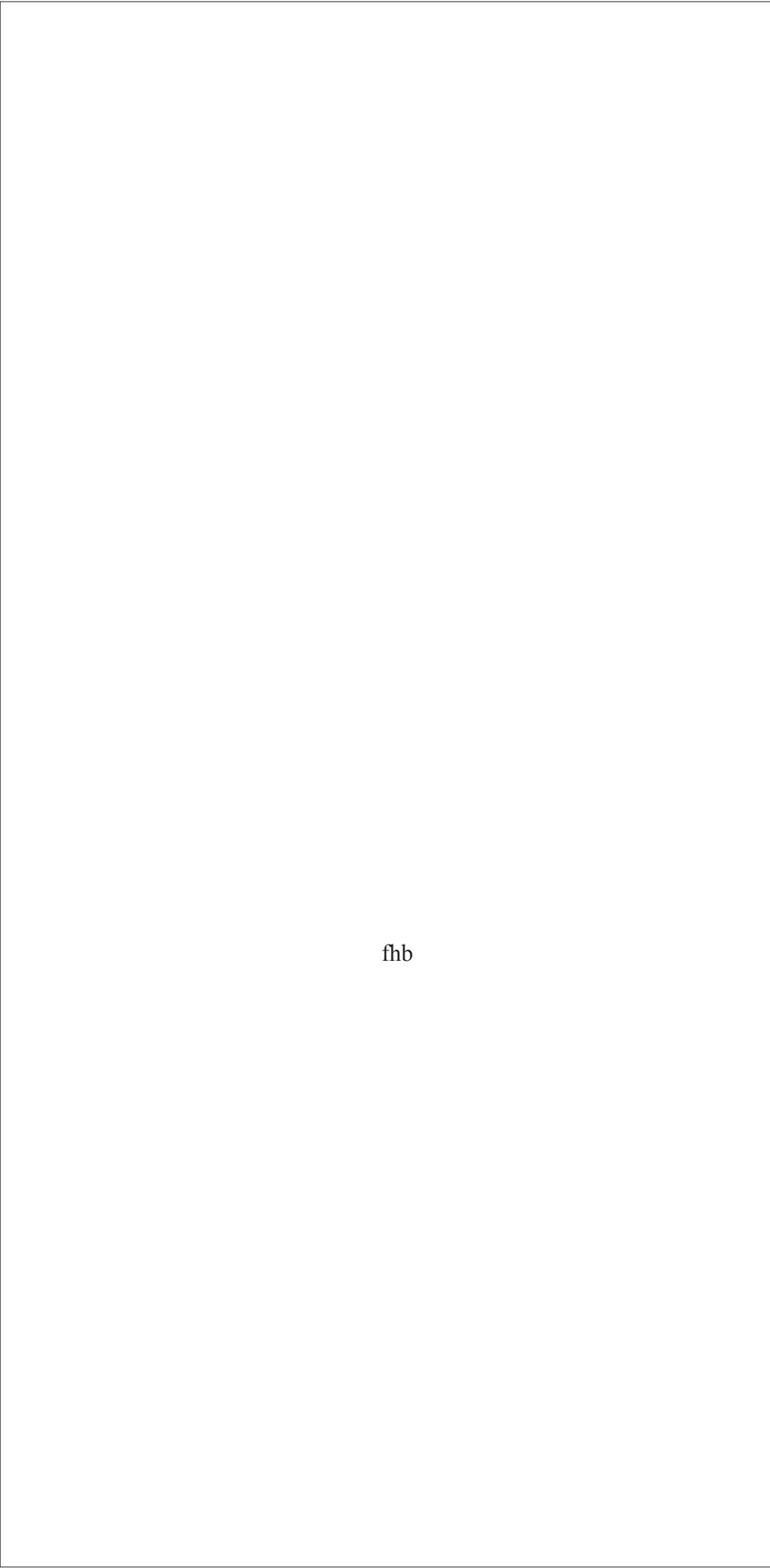
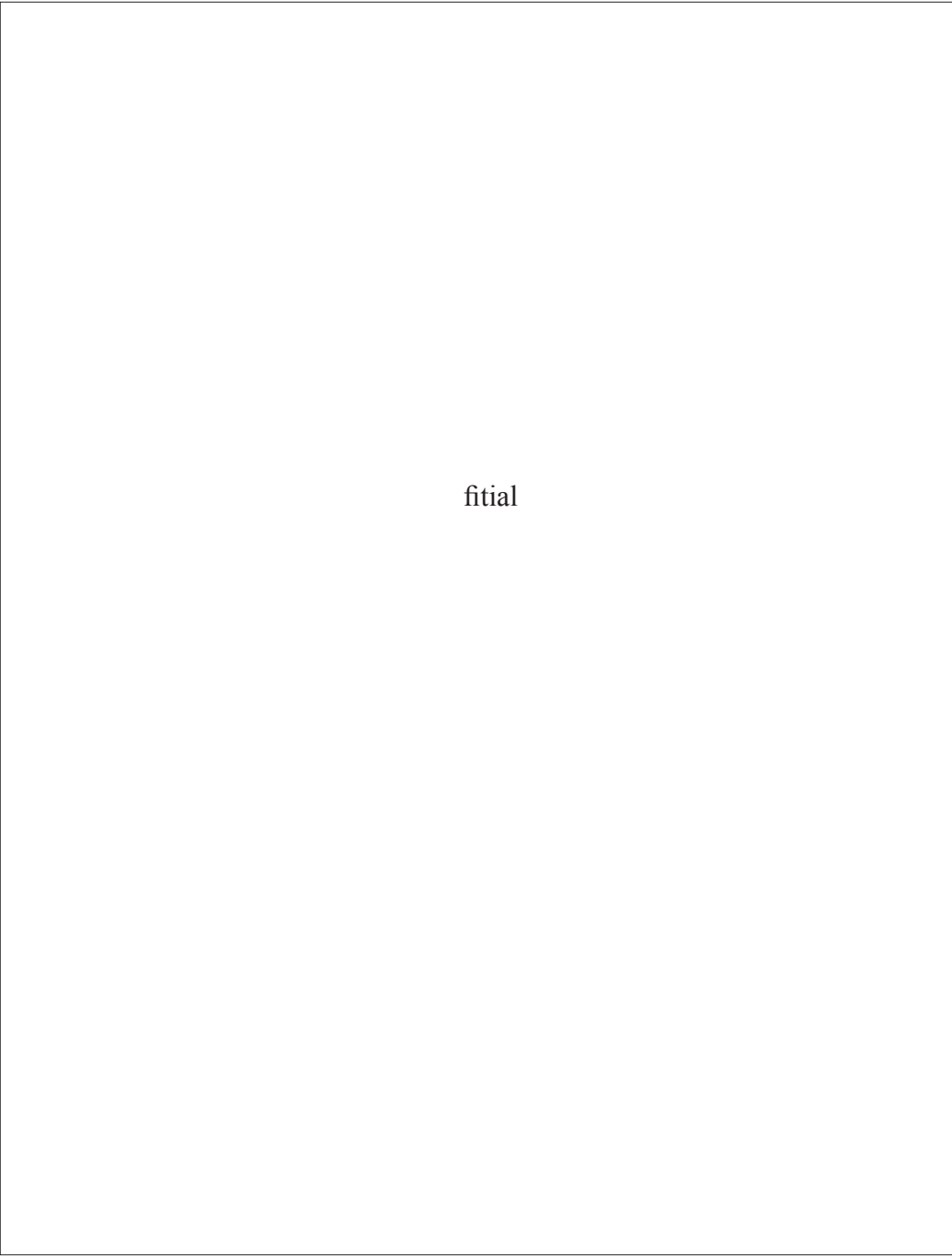
Anne Mulcahy, who was promoted to president and COO of Xerox Corporation when it was in deep trouble several years ago, said: "Crisis can be a powerful motivator. It enables you to do things you should have been doing all along. Whoever said that nothing focuses the mind like the sight of the gallows had it right."

And last, make sure to do whatever it takes to keep the car from falling in the ditch again. Some solutions are simple. Others will take constant vigilance to avoid the same mistakes. More often, than not, the car got stuck because the person behind the wheel was not paying attention to the warning signs, and got too careless. Mulcahy gives further advice: "Poor leadership can do serious damage virtually overnight. Good leadership—leadership that is consistent, honest, and forceful—can move mountains." Or at least keep the organization from falling into more trouble.

The next time you are driving up the beautiful winding road to Capitol Hill, see if the hole has been filled, or has the grass grown tall enough to keep it hidden from the next unsuspecting victim who will pull over to enjoy the scenery from the side of the road. Solutions are sometimes simple; it's finding someone who is willing to grab a shovel that is often the difficult part.

START

From Page 1



EPA fines firm \$15K for tank violations

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has fined the Cocos Lagoon Development Corp. \$15,518 for alleged federal underground storage tank violations on Saipan.

The company owned and operated two underground storage tanks at its power plant for the La Fiesta, San Roque shopping center. The two 15,000-gallon tanks contained diesel petroleum product used to run the facility's power generators.

"The federal rules are very clear about what an owner-operator needs to do in order to properly maintain an underground storage tank," said

Jeff Scott, director of Waste Programs for the EPA Pacific Southwest Region. "Leak prevention and detection is critical to prevent tanks from contaminating the precious underground freshwater sources in Saipan."

This is the third time that EPA and CNMI Division of Environmental Quality officials have inspected La Fiesta. Yesterday's penalty is the first formal underground storage tank administrative action pursued in the CNMI.

The EPA alleges that, at various times, the company failed to:

- Properly perform leak detection on the tanks;
- Maintain records relating to the facility's lead detection system;
- Maintain records of having actually used leak detection;
- Use overfill prevention equipment on the tanks and;
- Provide financial responsibility for taking action in case of any accidental releases

A December 1998 federal deadline required regulated underground storage tanks to have spill and overfill equipment, corrosion protection, and

The façade of the La Fiesta shopping mall in San Roque. The building used to be operated by Cocos Lagoon Development Corp. but has been sold to the Northern Marianas College, which had been planning to use it for its Pacific Gateway project.

EDITH ALEJANDRO



release detection methods to prevent releases.

The EPA frequently conducts unannounced tank inspections and the CNMI DEQ is also conducting annual inspections of

every underground storage tank facility in CNMI. Owners and operators who are cited with a field citation can correct the violations, submit documentation, and pay the settlement amount

within 30 days. Formal administrative complaints may also be pursued for violations and may subject owners and operator to penalties of up to \$11,000 per violation per tank per day in

addition to the added cleanup costs for leaking tanks.

More information on the EPA's underground storage tank program can be obtained at www.epa.gov/OUST/.

DPS to set checkpoints Monday

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting Occupant Protection and Child Restraint and Sobriety checkpoints on Monday, May 24.

The first setup will be on 2W Puerto Rico on the southbound lanes. This operation will start around 8am and will end around 9:15am.

The second setup will be on B/R Chalan Laulau by the New BJ Garden Restaurant on the southbound lanes. This operation will start around 3pm and will be terminated at about 4:15pm.

Each checkpoint conducted will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) at each location. This activity is part of the department's efforts to deter and detect and ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

In addition, traffic officers will be conducting highway criminal interdiction's, saturation patrols, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser activities.

For more information, contact Sgt. Joseph Flores at 664-9084 to 86.

Beach Road closed Saturday

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section is informing the public that Beach Road Garapan from the Horiguchi Building north to the Garapan Fire Sub-Station II will be closed on Saturday, May 22, for the CNMI Council for Sports and Fitness Mass Walk.

Traffic heading south along Beach Road Garapan by the Bank of Guam traffic signal lights intersection will be routed east toward Happy Market.

Motorists are urged to use the 2W Highway and refrain from using Beach Road Garapan between the hours of 5:30am to 7am.

For more information, contact Sgt. Sylvan M. Rangamar 664-9084/5.

Memories of War

Shiroma poses with members of the Marianas Repatriation Association at the peak of Mt. Tapochau. The group visited Saipan last Monday for its 35th Peace Memorial Service at the Okinawa Tower of the Last Command Post in Marpi. The group held a religious rite at the site in honor of those who served and died during World War II.

SHAN SEMAN



A tale of a WWII civilian survivor

By SHAN SEMAN
REPORTER

Of the multi-hued fabric of tales that make up the history of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian, one of the memories that vividly stand out among the survivors of that horrific war were the mass suicides on Saipan.

Told that they would be tortured by the invading American forces if they allow themselves to be captured, scores of Japanese families jumped to their deaths at the bottom of what has become known as the Suicide Cliff. Witnesses told of parents throwing their children over the cliff, and then jumping in after them, like so much lemmings in an orgy of self-destruction.

For the American soldiers who witnessed it, they were dumbfounded and felt helpless to stop it. For Koyu Shiroma, however, it was an experience that remains as stark in his mind as if it was only yesterday and not 40 years ago. That's because Shiroma was one of those who leapt off Suicide Cliff. He leapt, and survived to tell the tale.

It's been over 40 years since he last saw the place of his birth, but for the past two days, 67-year-old Shiroma has been on Saipan, getting in touch with the land that plays a big part in his family's history.

Shiroma, now the president of Koyu Business Consulting Inc., said he still remembers events from his childhood on Saipan, especially World War II, which, according to him, still has a strong hold on his life today.

Born on May 7, 1937, Shiroma was raised on a sugar cane plantation plot operated by his father, who migrated to Saipan between late 1920s and early 1930s.

In an interview Monday at the peak of Mount Tapochau, Shiroma, the first-born child in his family, recalled the events that led to that unforgettable experience at Suicide Cliff.

"In 1945, the war came," he said. "I did not know what it meant. I just followed my family and we went to a cave and hid inside. We weren't the only ones. There were other families hiding in the cave."

Shiroma said he did not find the stay inside

the cave much to his liking. "I didn't like it. We couldn't do anything. A lot of bombs were coming from air and sea...all the people were dying."

As days went by, Shiroma remembered his family—his father, mother, and two younger sisters—marching with a group of other people to Suicide Cliff in Marpi.

"We eventually followed people to Suicide Cliff. On the way, my mother, Yasu Shiroma, died from the bombs...the mountain was burning. I never forgot my mother's words: 'Wherever you go, you go with them [people].' So I continued to follow everyone to the cliff."

Along the way, Shiroma got separated from his father and two sisters. "There were too much bombings, and we got separated."

As the group made its way to the cliff, Shiroma said he saw several dying Japanese soldiers along the way. "They were dying. They would ask for help, but I couldn't stop to help so I jumped around them to keep up with the people walking."

When Shiroma and the group of Japanese people he was with finally reached the cliff,

people began leaping off the edge. Shiroma said that, without fully understanding what was going on, he just did what the others were doing and also jumped off the cliff.

In a twist of fate, however, and being only around seven years old at that time, his leap off the edge of the cliff was not too far off into space, so as he was halfway down, a protruding branch or root from a tree caught the back of his shirt, leaving him suspended in air.

"I actually jumped there, but somehow, a branch caught my shirt and I didn't go all the way down," he said.

"The American soldiers, with a search light, spotted me, picked me up, and took me to Camp Susupe. I still wasn't sure of my father and sisters' whereabouts...if they jumped or if they're alive."

Treated as an orphan at the camp, Shiroma said he met a Japanese woman who wanted to take him with her to Japan. At the end of the war, though, cousins and relatives arrived and took him on a ship to Okinawa.

While in Okinawa, Shiroma, against the will of

family members, expressed his desire to travel and see the world. He was sponsored by an American commander, who helped him get the necessary travel documents.

"My relatives, they did not want me to go. 'Your father and mother were killed by Americans, so why go to America,' I was told. But I wanted to know everything about America and to see the whole world."

Upon arriving at the U.S. mainland, Shiroma had to learn English and did so, beginning with the basic words. He enrolled in various schools, and although not a Catholic, attended classes at Notre Dame.

He eventually returned to Okinawa and landed a broadcasting job. However, through all his experiences, he said that memories of the war and Saipan were still very much alive in his mind.

He returned to Saipan in 1963 in hopes of locating family members, especially his two sisters, but was unsuccessful.

This year, Shiroma arrived on Saipan on May 31 and, with the help of Clarence Manglona, has been touring various sites on the island, including Suicide Cliff and Sugar King Park. He also took part in Monday's commemoration of Memorial Day and

the 35th Peace Memorial Service in Marpi.

"I cannot believe there was a war here," he said. "The war was really sad because a lot of civilian people died. I cannot believe that this is just a small island but a lot of people died here...Now the place is very beautiful. It is unbelievable and the people are very nice. I hope the people become successful and everyone should be united in happiness."

Shiroma and Manglona coincidentally met in Nagoya and were on the same aircraft to Saipan. Shiroma approached Manglona and expressed his need for help while on island, and Manglona took the initiative to help him.

"Someone told him I was a taxi driver and so he came up to me and asked for help in finding places here [Saipan]," said Manglona. "I told him to follow me and I'll take care of you."

Just before leaving for Okinawa, Shiroma said: "I was born here so it means a lot to me. It is a special place for me, it is my homeland, and I will never forget it until I die."

"I hope everyone understands that war is not what the world needs. We don't need war, we need peace. It's sad that there is still war in other countries."

He departed for Okinawa early yesterday morning, but said that he longs to return again.



Asia

Gunmen steal ballot boxes in Philippines



Manila's public workers clean up election posters on a street Tuesday morning, May 11, 2004.

By JIM GOMEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's election foe claimed he was being cheated out of a victory, and police said Wednesday that gunmen attacked two northern town halls, killing a policeman and burning presidential ballots.

A nationwide survey projected that Arroyo earned 41 percent of the vote while movie star Fernando Poe Jr. earned 32 percent. But a "quick count" by an election watchdog group showed Poe leading early Wednesday by about 40 percent to 36 percent.

Poe's camp has alleged widespread irregularities in Monday's voting and he urged his backers to "remain firm in our belief in the truth that victory is ours." About 3,000 supporters gathered in Manila's financial district Tuesday night, singing, "FPJ, the hope of the nation."

Poe outlined a list of alleged problems in Monday's polling, including men in military uniforms opening boxes to burn ballots, vote-buying, harassment of voters and switching of ballots.

Arroyo praised what she called relatively orderly balloting but urged Filipinos to remain "vigilant until the last vote is counted." The military warned against violence or mass protests and said it would use "necessary force" to maintain order.

Arroyo did not directly respond to polls showing her ahead. But

she appeared confident and said "the important thing now is we must leave behind the rancor that unfortunately characterized the campaign."

Poe later said his supporters should head to precincts and "tightly guard the counting."

"This government should not use money and intimidation against the people," Poe told reporters, without taking questions.

About 3,000 Poe supporters gathered in downtown Manila Tuesday evening, singing, "FPJ, the hope of the nation."

The official count is expected to take weeks as workers tally tens of millions of paper ballots by hand.

On southern Jolo island, a powerful bomb exploded Wednesday, killing at least one person and injuring 11 others near a building where election ballots were being counted, police said.

No one claimed immediate responsibility for the attack and it was not immediately clear whether the blast was related to the elections.

The al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf group is active in the predominantly Muslim island province, about 550 miles south of Manila.

On nearby Basilan island, unidentified men burned the municipal building in Tipo Tipo, the site of mayoral elections, military spokesman Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero said. No one was injured.

Filipinos voted Monday without any major disruption, but there have been at least 115

election-related deaths since December, compared with the 67 deaths during the 1998 presidential campaign.

About 15 armed men barged into the San Mariano town hall in the northern province of Isabela late Tuesday, gunning down one policeman and wounding another, national police spokesman Joel Goltiao said. The men snatched six ballot boxes, then burned the ballots and the elections office, Goltiao said.

About two hours later, 16 armed men entered a municipal

building in nearby Jones town, about 185 miles north of Manila, and burned returns, Goltiao said. There were no injuries.

It was not known whether the same group carried out the attacks, but most of the violence has been linked to local elections. Isabela—a mountainous, log-producing province rife with Marxist guerrillas—has a history of election-related violence.

The Philippine military warned Tuesday against violence or massive protests, saying troops would use "necessary

force" to maintain order if losing parties try to stir up trouble.

The opposing camps already accuse one another of planning to manipulate the outcome by fixing the vote or overturning it through violence and mass demonstrations.

The 113,000-strong Philippine military remains on high alert and "will not hesitate to implement its plan and employ the necessary force to maintain the tranquility and order," military spokesman Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero told The Associated Press.

Poe said Tuesday he believed he had won but was being cheated, telling reporters that many people were unable to vote and urging his supporters to "tightly guard the counting."

The election in this poor Southeast Asian nation of 84 million people ends the constitutionally fragile period following the January 2001 ouster of the last elected president, Joseph Estrada, for alleged massive corruption and misrule. Estrada is a former film star and a friend of Poe.

TRIBUNE GRAD

World

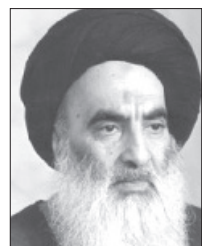
Iraqi cleric calls for end to fighting

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
AP WRITER

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)—Iraq's most respected Shiite cleric urged both U.S. soldiers and a radical cleric's militia Tuesday to withdraw from two Shiite holy cities where fighting has raged near some of Shia Islam's holiest shrines.

A statement released in Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani's name urged Iraqis not to travel to Najaf to join protests called by cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. Instead, he said, Shiites should join rallies elsewhere to demand that Najaf and Karbala "be rid of all armed manifestations."

However, the statement, which al-Sistani's aides distributed to reporters after nighttime skirmishes in Najaf, did not include the ayatollah's personal seal nor was it posted on his Web site, as is customary with religious decrees, or fatwas, which are binding on his followers.



al-Sistani

An aide to al-Sistani, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the ayatollah wants both the Americans and al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army out of the holy cities in southern Iraq but has avoided an explicit call because he knows neither side is prepared to accept it.

Brig. Gen. Mark Hertling, deputy commander of the U.S. Army's 1st Armored Division, said there were indications that al-Sadr was trying to bring in fighters to reinforce his militia in Karbala, about 50 miles south of Baghdad.

"We are doing our best to intercept those people," Hertling said at Camp Lima, a military base on the outskirts of the city.

U.S. officials have insisted that al-Sadr disband his militia and answer charges in the murder of a rival cleric in April 2003. Al-Sadr has insisted that the Americans agree to defer charges until a new Iraqi government is elected next January.

In Baghdad, meanwhile, Iraqi officials announced that the FBI would



A U.S. Army soldier arrives at the scene of a burning pipeline at the al-Rashediah district, outside Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, May 18, 2004. The cause of the fire is unknown.

help an Iraqi team investigate Monday's killing of the head of the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council, and the U.S. administrator in Iraq vowed to continue the transfer of sovereignty to Iraqis as scheduled.

"Terrorists are trying to stop Iraq's march to sovereignty and peace," U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer said at a memorial service in Baghdad for Izzadine Saleem, who was killed by

a suicide bomber near coalition headquarters. "They will not succeed."

"We must continue the political process leading to an interim government next month and to elections next year," he added.

The killing was a major setback to American efforts to stabilize Iraq just six weeks before the June 30 handover of sovereignty.

The U.S.-led coalition is struggling

Iraq inmates' kin want justice for abuse

ABU GHRAIB, Iraq (AP)—On the eve of the first court-martial in the Iraq prisoner abuse scandal, relatives of those still held at Abu Ghraib prison said Tuesday the only suitable punishment would be death—illustrating the potential gap in expectations in the case.

"If they actually committed such offenses, they should be executed," said Odai Ibrahim, 55, as he waited in a line with hundreds of other Iraqis to visit relatives at the prison on the western outskirts of Baghdad—notorious as the site of executions and torture during Saddam Hussein's regime.

But the first defendant, Spc. Jeremy C. Sivits, faces only a year in prison, a fine, reduction in pay and a bad conduct discharge. He has cooperated with authorities and is expected to testify against the others, who face more serious charges.

Three others—Staff Sgt. Ivan Frederick, Sgt. Javal Davis, and Spc. Charles Graner Jr.—will be arraigned

Wednesday before Sivits goes on trial. The arraignments and the Sivits trial will be open to media coverage. Nine Arab newspaper or broadcast journalists are among 34 news organizations to be allowed seats in the courtroom.

The U.S. military hopes the presence in the courtroom of such prominent Arab media as the Al-Arabiya and Al-Jazeera television networks will demonstrate American resolve to determine who was responsible for the abuse and punish the guilty.

However, the U.S. military has barred the broadcast of Wednesday's hearings on radio or television, and is prohibiting all recording devices and mobile phones from the courtroom.

Pictures of prisoners subjected to sexual humiliation and other brutality at the hands of American military police guards have generated a wave of international outrage and prompted some to question the Bush administration's commitment to bringing democracy to Iraq.

to contain an insurgency in Sunni areas north and west of Baghdad, as well as an uprising in a Shiite district of Baghdad and the Shiite heartland to the south led by al-Sadr.

Coalition officials estimate that about 265 Iraqi fighters have been killed since the uprising began in early April. According to an Associated Press tally, 254 Iraqis have been killed since April 5.

Before dawn Tuesday, U.S. troops killed nine fighters loyal to al-Sadr in Karbala, said Mutaz al-Hasani, a witness who saw their bodies. Ten Iraqi fighters were wounded in the clashes near the city's Imam Hussein and Imam Abbas shrines.

At least five Iraqi insurgents were killed during clashes in Karbala later in the day, according to Capt. Noel Gorospe, a U.S. military spokesman there.

Honduras jail fire was arson?

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras (AP)—Survivors of a prison fire that officials blamed on a short-circuit claimed Tuesday that the inferno that killed more than 100 gang members was intentionally set by fellow inmates.

A similar fire that broke out a year ago during clashes at the nearby La Ceiba prison killed 70 gang members. As in Monday's fire, last year's blaze burned only a cellblock housing the gangs.

Most of those killed were members of the feared Mara Salvatrucha 13 gang, characterized by tattoos of saints, skulls, daggers and dice.

"Many of the guys who died in there were in jail just because they had tattoos," said 18-year-old gang member Olmon Alberto Contreras, who lay in a hospital bed with severe burns.

At least 103 of 186 prisoners in the cell block—the only one of 18 at the prison to burn—died in the blaze at the state prison in San Pedro Sula, 110 miles north of the capital, Tegucigalpa.

Some were burned to death; others died from smoke inhalation. The death toll was expected to rise as many of the survivors lay in hospital beds with burns over as much as half their bodies.

The government acknowledged overcrowding and poor conditions in Honduras jail cells and promised to provide more funding.

But some survivors alleged that other inmates set the fire by throwing gasoline

into their cell block and lighting the fuel, while officials stood by and did nothing. The gang members say the guards' apathy was part of a government strategy of elimination that began with last year's federal anti-gang law.

"When you sow hatred, you reap hatred," Contreras said. "As you treat us, we will treat you. If you hit me, I must seek revenge."

Government authorities deny they are out to exterminate the gangs but say tough action is necessary to control an increasingly violent force blamed for everything from common crimes to grisly homicides.

Many of those killed Monday were detained during the country's recent crackdown on the estimated 100,000 gang members in Honduras.

In August, President Ricardo Maduro succeeded in passing legislation outlawing gangs and establishing minimum sentences of 12 years for their members.

Authorities initially said the fire in San Pedro was caused by an overheated refrigerator because inmates said they heard the appliance explode. Firefighters later said it appeared an air conditioner short-circuit was to blame and the resulting fire ignited bedding and curtains. They said they found about 75 electrical devices - air conditioners, fans and refrigerators - in the 30-by-45-foot cell block.

UN refugee chief says image damaged

WASHINGTON (AP)—Humanitarian workers are hamstrung by a perception among Muslims that they are enemies of Islam, the U.N. refugee chief said Tuesday, a situation that makes it impossible to know when his agency can return to Iraq.

The U.N. Refugee Agency, International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian agencies "have been badly damaged by the demonization of others," said Ruud Lubbers, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and former Dutch prime minister.

In a speech at the National Press Club, Lubbers blamed President Bush's rhetoric for some of the problem, specifically his characterization

of Iraq, Iran and North Korea as an "axis of evil" in his first State of the Union address, in 2002.

"We've been damaged by the 'axis of evil', this ... vision of the world as split between the good and the evil," Lubbers said. "Unfortunately, like others we are paying the price for this, for we have also come to be seen as part of a supposed Western crusade against the world of Islam."

Recent security problems and tension in southern Iraq have led the United Nations to suspend UNHCR convoys carrying Iraqi refugees back from Iran, he said. Threats of illegal checkpoints, hijackings and other security problems are some of

the reasons local transporters refuse to carry passengers beyond Basra, Lubbers said.

The attack in August, in which a truck bomber struck the Baghdad headquarters of the United Nations, has "left a horrible legacy but a true dilemma for humanitarian workers on how, and indeed if, our work can be conducted without jeopardizing our own lives," Lubbers said. The top U.N. envoy in Iraq was killed with 22 other people.

Al-Qaida, the international terror network that was the original target of Bush's war on terror, purportedly has put a bounty on the heads of U.N. staff, killed or captured, he said.

Israeli troops kill 20 in Gaza camp raid

RAFAH, Gaza Strip (AP)—Under heavy cover fire from helicopters, Israeli troops combed this refugee camp for weapons and gunmen Tuesday in the biggest Gaza offensive in years. Twenty Palestinians were killed, including two teenagers shot as they gathered laundry.

The death toll was the highest one-day total since 35 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank city in Ramallah on April 5, 2002.

International condemnation mounted against the operation, and the United States said it was asking Israel for “clarification.” The United Nations and European Union demanded an end to the incursion, which Israeli security officials said would last at least a week.

Early Wednesday, Israeli forces entered the refugee camp next to the West Bank town of Jenin, sparking an exchange of fire that left an armed Palestinian dead, the military said. Israel Radio said the casualty was a local leader of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, linked to Yasser Arafat’s Fatah movement.

Around the same times, another Al Aqsa militant was killed in an exchange of fire with Israeli soldiers in the West Bank city of Nablus, witnesses said. Soldiers also searched for terror suspects in three apartment buildings, after ordering about 200 people to leave.

In Rafah, a crowded camp of 90,000 people near the Egyptian border, Palestinian families sought refuge from the rocket and machine-gun fire in the innermost rooms of their homes.

Electrician Khaled Al-Assar, 38, said he sat with his wife and five children in one room of their house as gunfire rattled all around and a missile landed

nearby, shattering windows. “The kids were terrified, there was very loud boom, they started screaming and crying,” he said.

Not everyone stayed inside, and the consequences could be deadly. Ahmed Mughayer, 13, and his sister Asma, 16, were killed by Israeli fire when they ventured onto the roof of their three-story apartment building to bring in laundry, their father Mohammed said.

Mughayer said his wife had told Asma not to go out because of the shooting. “Asma said, ‘Don’t worry, I’ll be careful,’” he said.

The Israeli army said the aim of “Operation Rainbow” was to destroy weapons-smuggling tunnels and arrest Palestinian militants. It said it did not intend to demolish large numbers of Palestinian homes. Troops tore down four homes Tuesday, witnesses said.

Last week, Israel destroyed about 100 houses, making more than 1,000 Palestinians homeless.

Troops moved Tuesday into the Tel Sultan neighborhood on the outskirts of the Rafah camp. Bulldozers began tearing up a road to separate the neighborhood from the rest of the camp, and soldiers backed by about 70 armored vehicles conducted house-to-house searches, sometimes using bulldozers to knock down doors.

The army said most of the casualties were gunmen killed by missiles or machine-gun fire as they prepared to attack troops.

Residents said at least nine civilians were among the dead. At least 42 Palestinians were wounded.

Some Palestinians tried to reach safer ground. Thousands have left their homes in Rafah since the weekend, hauling away their possessions on tractors and donkey carts.

In all, 19 Palestinians in

Rafah were killed by Israeli fire—10 in two missile strikes, and nine by machine-gun fire, said Dr. Moawiya Hassanain, a Palestinian Health Ministry official. A 20th man was killed while handling explosives.



Smoke billows from the Palestinian refugee camp of Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip, Tuesday, May 18, 2004.

AP

Nations urged to meet costs of peacekeeping

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged the 191 U.N. member states to meet the “surging demand” for U.N. peacekeeping troops, which could add an extra \$1 billion to this year’s \$2.82 billion peacekeeping budget.

Last month, he said, more than 53,000 troops, military observers and civilian police were serving in 15 U.N. missions around the world from East Timor to Lebanon and Ivory Coast - the highest number since 1995.

“Even more missions loom on the horizon,” he said. “The Security Council has recently authorized a new mission in Haiti and has expanded the existing mission in Ivory Coast. Missions are being planned for Burundi and Sudan.”

Annan told an open Security Council meeting that a recent study by Oxford University economists found that the aver-

age economic cost of civil wars averaged \$128 billion a year in lost revenue and output.

Measured against this loss, he said, “peacekeeping is extremely cost-effective.”

“Our duty must be to meet this demand and to seize the opportunities to bring longstanding conflicts to an end,” Annan said. “For millions of our fellow human beings, U.N. peacekeeping missions offer their best—and sometimes only—hope of emerging from conflict towards a safe and stable future.”

A statement adopted by the Security Council at the end of the meeting called on member states to provide the United Nations “with full political and financial support to meet these challenges effectively.” It also urged them to provide sufficient levels of trained troops, police, and civilian personnel.

TRIB GRAD AD

Life & Style

Historian William Manchester dies at 82

By PAT EATON-ROBB
AP WRITER

Historian William Manchester, who brought a novelist's flair to his stirring biographies of such 20th century giants as Winston Churchill, Douglas MacArthur and John F. Kennedy, died of cancer Tuesday at 82.

Manchester wrote 18 books, including two novels, but was best known in recent years for his magisterial, multi-volume biography of Churchill, "The Last Lion." Two strokes prevented Manchester from completing the much-anticipated third volume, covering most of the World War II years.

Just last month, Paul Reid, a feature writer at The Palm Beach Post, was chosen to help finish the book.

"He wrote histories or biographies that just take you right there and illuminate, teach, enlighten and anger," Reid said.

Manchester died in his sleep at his home in Middletown, his daughter Laurie Manchester said.

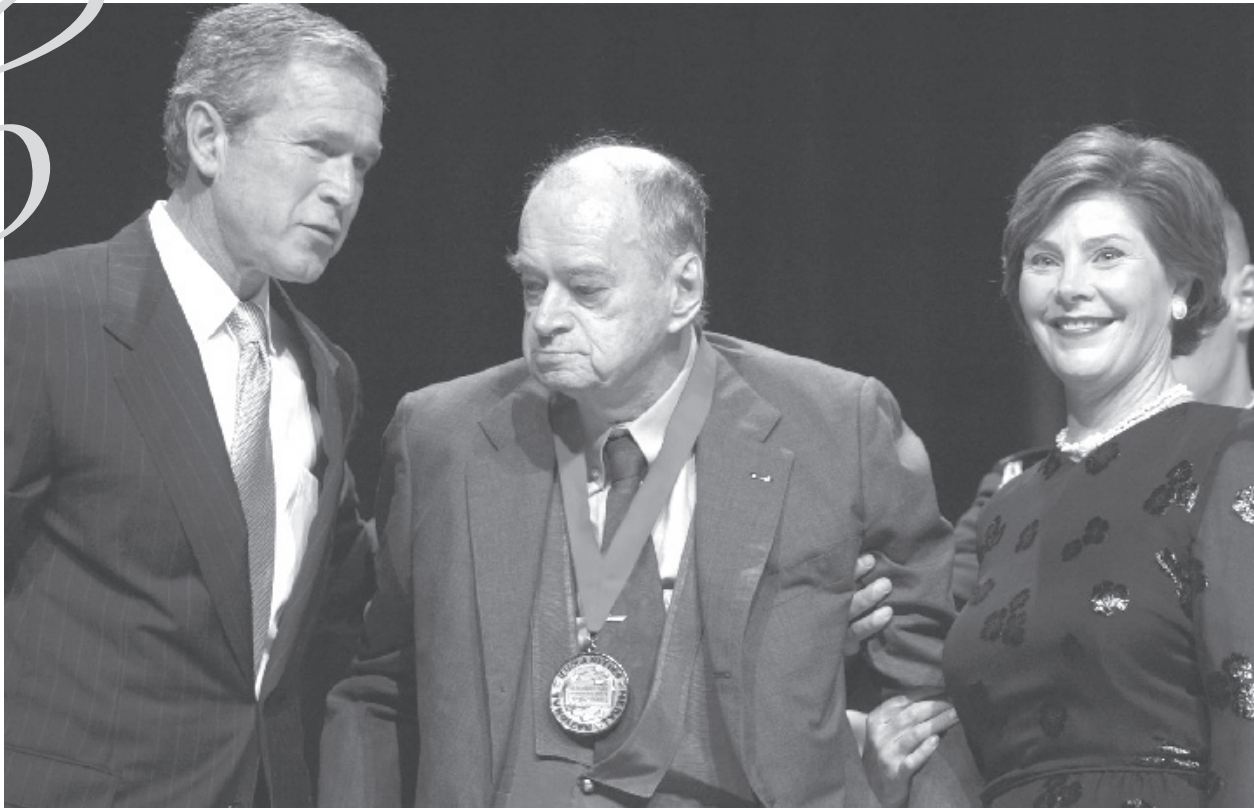
"He would have wanted to be remembered as a writer first and foremost, and then as a historian," she said. "Writing came to him easily, it was like breathing."

Manchester emerged from a working-class childhood in industrial Massachusetts and battlefield experiences as a Marine Corps sergeant in World War II.

Manchester and JFK became friends in 1946 while both were recovering from war wounds. During the 1950s and the Camelot years, Manchester was a confidant and companion to Kennedy, and a frequent visitor to the family's compound in Hyannisport, Mass.

The friendship helped provide Manchester with material for his breakthrough book—the 1962 "Portrait of a President," the first of three books he wrote about Kennedy.

The shattering experience of the



Historian and writer William Manchester is seen with President Bush and first lady Laura Bush during the National Endowments of the Arts Awards ceremony in this April 22, 2002, photo in Washington.

Kennedy assassination the following year led to "The Death of a President," published in 1967.

Jacqueline Kennedy tried to block the book's publication, saying it revealed intimate family details. Manchester eventually agreed to drop certain passages. The book sold more than a million copies.

Explaining the Kennedy mystique in "The Death of a President," Manchester wrote: "The nub of the matter was that Kennedy had met the emotional needs of his people. His achievements had been genuine. His dreams and his oratory had electrified a country grown stale and listless and a world drifting helplessly toward Armageddon."

In a 1999 New York Times interview,

he said he thought so many people believed Kennedy was killed in a conspiracy because of "that dreadful Oliver Stone movie"—"JFK"—and because people felt someone as insignificant as Lee Harvey Oswald could not have done such a momentous thing.

"If you put the murder of the president of the United States at one end of the scale, and you put that waif Oswald on the other end, it just doesn't balance," he said. "And you want to put something on Oswald's side to make it balance. A conspiracy would do that beautifully. Unfortunately, there is no evidence whatever of that."

In 1983, 20 years after the assassination, he wrote "One Brief Shining Moment," an affectionate retrospective

of the Kennedy years.

After his 1968 "Arms of Krupp"—a history of the German arms-maker—and his history of the United States from 1933 to 1973, "The Glory and the Dream," Manchester took on other major historical figures.

His 1978 biography of MacArthur, "American Caesar," received a National Book Award nomination and became the basis for a movie.

The first volume of his anticipated three-book biography of Churchill, "The Last Lion: Visions of Glory 1874-1932," was published in 1983. The sequel, "The Last Lion: Alone 1932-1940," came out in 1988.

Despite mixed reviews, the Churchill books sold hundreds of thousands of

copies. They were so beloved that when the U.S. Navy commissioned a guided-missile destroyer named after Churchill, it installed signed copies of Manchester's books in the ship's library.

The most personal of his works was an attempt to exorcise demons and recurring wartime nightmares—"Goodbye, Darkness," published in 1980. Manchester describes growing up in Attleboro, Mass., as the son of a wounded World War I Marine. The book relates Manchester's World War II experiences on Okinawa, where he was wounded twice, and his visits to other Pacific battle-grounds during the late 1970s.

In his concluding note to the book, Manchester wrote: "This, then, was the life I knew, where death sought me, during which I was transformed from a cheeky youth to a troubled man who, for over 30 years, repressed what he could not bear to remember."

After the war, he earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Massachusetts and a master's from the University of Missouri.

He was a reporter for the Daily Oklahoman in Oklahoma City and for The (Baltimore) Sun, where he was a war correspondent. His first book, "Disturber of the Peace," came out in 1951.

Manchester left daily journalism in 1955, the year he began his long association with Wesleyan University in Connecticut. He became managing editor of publications there, a job he held for 10 years. He recently was adjunct professor of history and writer-in-residence.

In explaining his decision to stop writing, an ailing Manchester told the Times in 2001 he could no longer approach his usual prodigious output.

"I can't put things together; I can't make the connections," he said.

His wife, Julia, died in 1998. He is survived by three children, three grandchildren and a brother.

Moore documentary gets US distributor

By GARY GENTILE
AP BUSINESS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Moore's award-winning documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11" has picked up a U.S. distributor and will hit theaters June 25.

The film will be released by a partnership of Lions Gate Films, IFC Films and the Fellowship Adventure Group, which was formed by Harvey and Bob Weinstein specifically to market Moore's film.

Moore's film, which recently won the top prize at the Cannes Film Festival, criticizes President Bush's response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and connects the Bush family with Osama bin Laden's.

The Weinsteins, who run Miramax Films, bought the rights to the movie from The Walt Disney Co., which owns Miramax and refused to distribute "Fahrenheit 9/11."

The Weinstein brothers will personally finance and control distribution and marketing, they said Tuesday.

"I am grateful to them now that everyone who wants to see it will now have the chance to do so," Moore said in a statement.



American film director Michael Moore gestures while presenting his Palme d'Or trophy for his documentary film "Fahrenheit 911" during the closing ceremony of the 57th International Film Festival in Cannes, southern France, in this May 23, 2004 file photo.

"On behalf of my stellar cast—GW, Dick, Rummy, Condi and Wolfie—we thank this incredible coalition of the willing for bringing 'Fahrenheit 9/11' to the people."

Disney chief executive Michael Eisner said the company "did not want a film in the middle of the political process" because he believed that theme

park and entertainment consumers "do not look for us to take sides."

In a settlement reached last week, the Weinsteins repaid their parent company for all costs of the film to date, estimated at around \$6 million. Any profits from the film's distribution that go to Miramax or Disney will be donated to charity.

Hoofers celebrate National Tap Dance Day

NEW YORK (AP)—Arthur Duncan and Jimmy Slyde still have the moves.

The veteran tap dancers took to the stage as the tap world honored its elders and celebrated younger stars such as Savion Glover and Ayodele Casel with the 16th annual Tap Extravaganza.

The four-hour event, a sprawling, sometimes exasperating affair, is not for the faint of heart. Held this year at the Fashion Institute of Technology, the jam-packed performance and awards ceremony marked National Tap Dance Day—May 25, the birthday of tap legend Bill "Bojangles" Robinson.

Hosted by Jason Samuels, a rising force in tap, the evening included local youth group Fulton Feet Express, the all-female troupe Barbara Duffy and Company and the German duo Tap and Tray, practitioners of an old-school style involving spinning and tapping on silver trays.

The variety-style show Sunday evening belied the silly notion that specialized art forms such as tap or ballet are inaccessible to the general public.

While Glover always causes a stir, the night's most exciting moments came courtesy of Duncan and Slyde. Not as explosive as the current generation, the consummate performers endow every slide and step with an elegance that many of the youngsters have yet to master.

A regular on "The Lawrence Welk Show" from 1964-1982 and one of the evening's lifetime honorees, Duncan ignited the audience with a song-and-dance rendition of "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)."

"Bet you thought I was gonna be lousy," he told the cheering audience with a sly grin, after finessing his way across the stage.

Slyde also electrified, living up to his name. A Guggenheim fellow whose six-decade career includes a Tony-nominated role in "Black and Blue" and appearances in the films "The Cotton Club" and "Round Midnight," Slyde was weightless, gliding across the stage to the smooth accompaniment of the Frank Owens Trio.

Miss Australia wins Miss Universe pageant

By MONTE HAYES
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

QUITO, Ecuador (AP)—A 20-year-old Australian involved in modeling and dancing won the Miss Universe title Tuesday night in a two-hour pageant watched by television viewers around the world.

Jennifer Hawkins, a 5-foot-11 blonde with blue eyes, was chosen from among 80 beauty queens.

Miss USA Shandi Finnessey of Florissant, Mo., was named first runnerup during the pageant at a convention center on the northern outskirts of Quito, drawing 7,500 spectators.

Hawkins and Finnessey hugged before the winner was

announced. Hawkins then received the crown from outgoing Miss Universe Amelia Vega, of the Dominican Republic, and strolled down the runway to the cheers of the crowd.

Besides her modeling and dancing pursuits, pageant officials said she also choreographs a dance team that tours Australia. Her interests include surfing, camping and watching ballet.

The three other finalists were Miss Puerto Rico Alba Reyes, Miss Paraguay Yanina Gonzalez and Miss Trinidad & Tobago Danielle Jones.

The finalists were announced after 10 semifinalists paraded in swimsuits.

Before the pageant began, singer Gloria Estefan defended



Miss Australia Jennifer Hawkins celebrates as she was crowned Miss Universe, at a convention center in Quito, Ecuador, Tuesday, June 1, 2004.

AP

the contest from critics who consider such events frivolous.

"A beautiful woman has very great powers to convince, and

we have seen many misses who have done a great job," said the Cuban-American singer, who performed at the Miss Universe

finals Tuesday night. "The new Miss Universe should do a spectacular job helping the needy."

The panel of judges included

Emilio Estefan, actress Bo Derek and supermodel Petra Nemcova.

Kwame Jackson, who was runner-up on the U.S. reality show "The Apprentice," was dropped as a judge at the beauty event. Jackson was disqualified Monday by pageant organizers for greeting beauty queens he bumped into in the lobby of their hotel.

"Just being here makes me feel like a winner and if I get to be one of the finalists, it will be great and I will feel like one of the proudest women in the world," Miss Spain Maria Jesus Ruiz said Monday.

But she did not make the cut.

Ecuadoreans were hoping the two-hour show would showcase the beauty of their country and attract tourists to this small Andean nation.

Ten minutes of the program spotlighted the country's attractions—ranging from the unique flora and fauna of the Galapagos Islands to snowcapped volcanoes, highland Indian communities and the lush vegetation of its Amazon jungle.

"Ecuador is going to shine for what it is, an unforgettable place, when you see the videos we have made for the show," said Daisy Fuentes, who hosted the program along with Billy Bush.

Miss America telecast cut by an hour

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Finding fat on Miss America isn't easy. Finding it in the pageant telecast should be, though.

That's what the pageant's TV producers will be doing this summer, trimming the annual beauty contest's live prime-time show from three hours to two in hopes of juicing up its Nielsen ratings.

"Who will be eliminated?" may be replaced by "What will be eliminated?" as the question foremost in viewers' minds when they tune in for the Sept. 18 telecast on ABC.

Will it be the parade of states, in which contestants—starting

with Miss Alabama, ending with Miss Wyoming—introduce themselves to viewers and the live audience?

Will it be the reigning Miss America's farewell walk down the runway?

How about that fuzzy tell-us-about-your-platform segment?

Miss America Organization CEO Art McMaster isn't telling. McMaster, who announced the cutback to two hours Tuesday, won't say what he will recommend to pageant producer Bob Bain and ABC executives.

"There's nothing that's on the chopping block itself," McMaster said. "It's just a matter of

reformatting the TV show to get it down to two hours. The whole show is being reformatted, from minute one to minute 120."

Last year's pageant drew only 10.3 million viewers, an all-time low, according to Nielsen Media Research.

The ratings slide has prompted pageant and ABC officials to look hard at Miss America's talent competition, an amateur hour with none of the pizzazz—or drawing power—of "American Idol."

McMaster, who took over as interim CEO in January, says the talent competition will remain a part of Miss America, but the way it's presented will be changed.

"It will be in. Absolutely, it will be in. How it will be shown is the idea we're going after," said McMaster.

For years, the 10 semifinalists got to perform their routines—including dancing the hula and singing arias—on the stage during the annual telecast. Five years ago, the pageant cut the number of routines performed live in front of the TV cameras to five, hoping to hold on to viewers.

Meanwhile, the length of the telecast grew. It has been three hours long since 1998.

HBO filming helps free accused LA man

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Curb Your Enthusiasm," an HBO show known for its acerbic wit, accidentally helped deliver a happy ending to a man who had been charged with murder.

Juan Catalan spent 5 1/2 months in jail on murder charges before his attorney found video footage taken by the show at Dodger Stadium that backs up his client's claims of innocence.

Police arrested Catalan in August, alleging he killed Martha Puebla, 16, in the San Fernando Valley on May 12, 2003, because she had testified against his brother in another case.

Catalan insisted he and his 6-year-old daughter were watching the Los Angeles Dodgers lose to

the Atlanta Braves, 11-4, minutes before Puebla was killed about 20 miles north of the stadium.

He said he had ticket stubs from the game and testimony from his family as to his whereabouts the night Puebla was killed. But police still believed he was responsible, saying they had a witness who placed Catalan at the scene of the slaying.

Catalan said he asked to take a lie detector test, but was refused.

Defense attorney Todd Melnik subpoenaed the Dodgers and Fox Networks, which owned the team then, to scan videotape of the televised baseball game and footage from its "Dodger Vision" cameras. Some of the videotapes showed

where Catalan was sitting but Melnik couldn't make him out.

Melnik later learned that HBO had been at the stadium the night of the killing to tape an episode of "Curb Your Enthusiasm," a self-deprecating comedy starring "Seinfeld" co-creator Larry David. The lawyer found what he was looking for in footage that had not made the final cut.

"I got to one of the scenes, and there is my client sitting in a corner of the frame eating a hot dog with his daughter," Melnik said. "I nearly jumped out of my chair and said, 'There he is!'"

The tapes had time codes that allowed Melnik to find out exactly when Catalan was at the ballpark. Melnik also obtained

cell phone records that placed his client near the stadium later that night, about 20 minutes before the murder.

The attorney said it would have been impossible for Catalan to get out of the parking lot, change vehicles and clothing and play with his daughter as well as kill Puebla during that span.

Catalan, who could have faced the death penalty had he been convicted of murder, was released in January because a judge ruled there was no evidence to try him.

"To hear the words from the judge's mouth, I just broke down in tears," Catalan, 26, said Tuesday. "It was the happiest moment in my life."

wallace

China places conditions on Britney tour

SHANGHAI, China (AP)—China to Britney: Come perform but leave the revealing outfits at home.

Britney Spears' first China tour has received Culture Ministry approval, but officials want to know what she's wearing before she hits the stage, the official China News Service reported Tuesday.

Spears, who's on a world tour to promote her latest album, "In The Zone," will perform five concerts in Shanghai and Beijing sometime next year, CNS said.

Wang Enqiang, an agent for Spears' Chinese promoter, Beijing Poly Culture and Art Co. Ltd., said the pop star planned to come to the mainland in 2004, but he had no information about ministry concerns.

However, the 22-year-old's sexy image has caused concern. Culture officials have asked the

concert's Chinese organizers to guarantee she doesn't show too much skin on stage, CNS said.

"Relevant departments will carry out strict reviews of Britney Spears' performance clothing," the report said.

It wasn't clear what standards inspectors will use or how they would be enforced. A spokesman for Spears could not be immediately reached.

The head of the Culture Ministry's performance division, Pan Yan, said she hadn't received a performance application and couldn't comment on the report.

CNS quoted a spokesman for the concert's Chinese organizers as saying the ministry's wishes would be respected, but he said Spears' outfits and stage show are the same at each tour stop and it would be "impossible to make up clothes specially for the China performances."



Britney Spears performs in Lyon, central France, in this May 18, 2004 file photo during her European "The Onyx Hotel Tour." AP

Judge OKs Anthony, Torres divorce

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)—A judge approved a divorce Tuesday for Puerto Rican singer Marc Anthony and former Miss Universe Dayanara Torres.

"It's fitting to accept this divorce by mutual consent," Judge Maritza Capellan said. Anthony has been reportedly been dat-



Anthony

ing singer Jennifer Lopez.

Anthony was present during the hearing last week on the divorce motion filed

by both him and Torres. The Dominican Republic offers quick divorces to foreigners as long as one of the spouses is present.

The authorization for divorce will now go through other officials, including the secretary of state for external relations and then the U.S. Embassy, at which point it will become final.

Anthony and Torres married in Las Vegas in 2000. They split up in July 2002, but never legally separated. They renewed their wedding vows at a lavish ceremony at a cathedral in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in December 2002. They have two young children, Cristian and Ryan.

The judge's divorce ruling says Anthony is to pay Torres \$3,500 a month in alimony, plus child support of \$6,500 a month for each child.

It also says Torres is to keep homes in Miami and San Juan, Puerto Rico, while Anthony will keep another home just outside San Juan, plus others in Long Island, New York, and New York's Catskill Mountains.

Jackman wins Astaire Award for dancing

NEW YORK (AP)—They may not be known for their dancing, but Hugh Jackman and Donna Murphy have all the right moves on Broadway.

Jackman, who plays Australian entertainer Peter Allen in "The Boy From Oz," and Murphy, star of "Wonderful Town," have won the 2004 TDF-Astaire Awards as the best male and fe-

male dancers in theater, it was announced Tuesday.

Kathleen Marshall, who directed and choreographed "Wonderful Town," was named best choreographer.

The prizes are given each year by the Theatre Development Fund and Robyn Smith Astaire, widow of the legendary dancer Fred Astaire. The

awards will be presented at a ceremony later this month.

A panel of dance and theater critics chose the winners.

Among previous winners are dancers Chita Rivera, Gregory Hines, Bebe Neuwirth, Savion Glover, Charles "Honi" Coles, Charlotte d'Amboise, Ann Reinking, Ann Miller and Donna McKechnie.

Bill Clinton to tout book on '60 Minutes'

NEW YORK (AP)—Bill Clinton, memoir writer, should get better ratings for doing "60 Minutes" than did Bill Clinton, co-host of "Point-Counterpoint."

Clinton, who flopped last year as a commentator for the CBS television news magazine, will discuss his upcoming book, "My Life," with newsman Dan Rather for an interview to be aired Sunday, June 20.

"It's a platform that serves up one of the more consistent viewerships in television," Paul

Bogaards, a spokesman for Clinton's publisher, Alfred A. Knopf, said Tuesday.

"My Life" will be published June 22 with a first printing of 1.5 million. "60 Minutes" has been a key forum for some of the year's biggest political books, including Richard Clarke's "Against All Enemies" and Bob Woodward's "Plan of Attack."

Clinton himself has a long history with "60 Minutes." It was the setting for one of his most famous interviews, when in 1992

then-presidential candidate Bill Clinton acknowledged that he and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, had had marital troubles. Last year, Clinton and former Sen. Bob Dole hosted a revived "Point-Counterpoint." The segment lasted less than a year.

Clinton will be the keynote speaker Thursday at BookExpo America, the publishing industry's annual national convention, which this year takes place in Chicago. Bogaards said he expects the speech to last about 20 minutes.

Bono implores EU to keep 'deal with God'

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP)—Rock star Bono lectured European Union governments Tuesday to spend more on forgiving debts and combating the spread of AIDS in Africa, causes that the U2 frontman has championed for the past decade.

Bono, the lunchtime speaker to a conference of EU development ministers at Dublin Castle, said most EU states had reneged on a longstanding promise to commit 0.7 percent of their gross domestic product to overseas aid. He called that "renegotiating your deal with God downwards."

He also accused EU-run aid programs of dragging their heels.

"There's about \$14 billion that people have pledged to the

EU, but the EU hasn't found a way of spending it. That's not the Europe I want to be in," said Bono, who is one of Ireland's wealthiest individuals.

Bono, responding to a reporter's question, said he didn't expect popular singers to band together soon to mount another Live Aid-style concert. The 1985 concerts in London and Philadelphia, led by Bono's fellow rock crusader Bob Geldof, raised \$22 million for famine relief in Ethiopia and Sudan.

"At this point there are no plans for a Live Aid II," Bono said. "It's always there in the background but right now, no. Right now we're after billions, not millions. A Live Aid II would help, but it wouldn't fix the problem."

Penny from heaven should be returned to rightful owner

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: Your "Penny From Heaven" letter about the coin found by the employee of a car reconditioning business (the penny was given to his boss) missed one important fact. That penny belongs to the owner of the car and should not have been taken without the owner's permission. It is called stealing. Shame on you, Abby.

HONEST TO A FAULT IN PHOENIX



Dear Abby

DEAR HONEST: Your letter was one of hundreds I've received from sticklers for honesty who also scolded me for not chastising her. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: That penny could well have been "from heaven" for the client who owned that vehicle. It could easily have fallen from the client's pocket or purse and have been presumed lost. That writer should have offered the penny back to the customer. And you, Abby, instead of taking pleasure at the taking of another's property, should have pointed that out.

C.R. IN WALLER, TEXAS

DEAR C.R.: Thanks for putting your helpful criticism so kindly. One reader from Studio City, Calif., asked me if I had a geranium in my cranium for overlooking the point.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Melanie," and her fiance, "Tom," expect their first child next month. Tom's mother, "Shirley," currently has no home of her own and is living with relatives. Shirley plans to attend Melanie's baby shower three weeks before the baby is due, and remain indefinitely with them in their apartment. The apartment is big enough for Tom, Melanie and the baby, but certainly no more.

Tom can't bring himself to say "No" to Shirley, and Melanie is distraught over this. She doesn't like having people around her 24/7, and she's physically sick to her stomach about it. Shirley was not invited. She simply informed my daughter when she would arrive and where she would be sleeping.

Should I get involved, or should I let the children work this out themselves? Please advise.

ANXIOUS MOTHER IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR ANXIOUS: I advise you to stay out of the fray. Offer your daughter emotional support, but do not fight this battle for her. As much as you might like to help, it is time for your daughter to strengthen her backbone and learn to assert herself. It would be nice if her fiance had matured enough to tell his mother to back off at some point, but it appears he hasn't.

DEAR ABBY: My son-in-law, "Donald," ransacks our desk and bureau drawers and looks at everything when he comes to visit. He doesn't take anything, but he goes through anything that arouses his interest.

Donald has a pleasant disposition, but his pawing through our things makes my other daughter furious. Neither of us knows what to do about it because we don't want to alienate my younger daughter.

Anything you suggest will be appreciated. Last week, he opened a small drawer where I keep my checkbook and monthly payment records. It's driving us batty. Help!

GOING BATTY

DEAR GOING BATTY: Relocate your financial and personal papers to a locked filing cabinet. Put a lock on your bedroom door and use it when Donald is in the house. Actions speak louder than words.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Pastimes

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-228-5955! \$10 per minute. Watch today's pictures. It's only a King Features service. NYT.



"I want to go shopping!"

MAKE-A-WISH

With an average of 100 requests per day, the Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Help us make a difference. Call 1-800-368-5746. Website: www.makeawish.org

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Ziggy®

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY

Justin Jeffre, Sean Astin, Lesley Boone, Sally Jessy Raphael

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Having a crusader attitude will make all the difference in the world this year. Be a little stubborn if you think you are right. Be diverse in all that you do and you will meet the demands being put on you and accomplish your goals. Your numbers are 2, 13, 17, 29, 31, 40

EUGENIA
LAST
THE LAST WORD
OF ASTROLOGY



COPYRIGHT 2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Push to make others aware of what you are doing and how you believe it will help everyone on some level. If you can sell your ideas to others, you will put yourself in a favorable position. □□□



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

This is a perfect day to make some much-needed adjustments. Opportunities will manifest themselves in the most unusual places, so don't hesitate to talk about your dreams. □□□



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Keeping a secret will be of utmost importance today. By disclosing what you are up to, you could blow a deal or your cover. Work by yourself; question your motives. □□□



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Do something creative today that can be used to benefit others. The more you do to help make reforms, the better. □□□□



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You will be misled if you are too gregarious. Tone down and observe what others are doing. Advancement may be at stake. □□



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You can find an ideal romantic partner if you get out and do things that interest you. Get involved in talks that will stimulate your mind and broaden your perspective about projects you want to pursue. □□□□□



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Prepare yourself well so that you can follow through with what's necessary as quickly as possible. Don't be lazy or waste time thinking about what you should be doing. □□□



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Partnerships will be a little hard to handle if you don't take precautions and fully prepare. You can get on with your plans and get the praise you deserve. □□□



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Your work ethics will pay off, so roll up your shirtsleeves and work alongside others for best results. Your team-player approach will put you in a leadership position. □□□



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You should be developing your ideas today. If you find someone particularly inspiring, spend time discussing your plans together. Love and romance will be on your doorstep. □□□□□



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Take the initiative to follow what you feel is the best path and refrain from being led astray. Prepare to take a pass on what others are asking of you. □□



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Your involvement in good causes will be rewarded today. You will begin to see the results of a job well done. Someone unusual, but interesting, will want to get to know you better. □□□□

BIRTHDAY BABY: You are proactive and never take the conventional route. Your outgoing nature always leads to adventure and excitement. You will chase your dreams until you reach your destiny.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

